

Remarks

Claims 1, 2, 6, 9-16, 18 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Morlitz (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0065800 A1, hereinafter "Morlitz") in view of Pepper et al. (U.S. Patent No. 7,206,777 B2, hereinafter "Pepper") and further in view of Hall, III et al. (U.S. Patent No. 7,870,089 B1, hereinafter "Hall").

Claims 3, 4 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Morlitz in view of Pepper and further in view of Hall and further in view of Shanman et al. (U.S. Patent No. 7,231,357 B1, hereinafter "Shanman").

Claims 28 and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Morlitz in view of Hall.

Each of the various rejections and objections are overcome by amendments that are made to the specification, drawing, and/or claims, as well as, or in the alternative, by various arguments that are presented.

Any amendments to any claim for reasons other than as expressly recited herein as being for the purpose of distinguishing such claim from known prior art are not being made with an intent to change in any way the literal scope of such claims or the range of equivalents for such claims. They are being made simply to present language that is better in conformance with the form requirements of Title 35 of the United States Code or is simply clearer and easier to understand than the originally presented language. Any amendments to any claim expressly made in order to distinguish such claim from known prior art are being made only with an intent to change the literal scope of such claim in the most minimal way, i.e., to just avoid the prior art in a way that leaves the claim novel and not obvious in view of the cited prior art, and no equivalent of any subject matter remaining in the claim is intended to be surrendered.

Also, since a dependent claim inherently includes the recitations of the claim or chain of claims from which it depends, it is submitted that the scope and content of any dependent claims that have been herein rewritten in independent form is exactly the same as the scope and content of those claims prior to having been rewritten in independent form. That is, although by convention such rewritten claims are labeled herein as having been "amended," it is submitted that only the format, and not the content, of these claims